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Newsletter of the BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S., D.B.A. 36 York Place · Edinburgh · EH1 3HU

## 77.20582 Angel Design Drug Jars

As collectors of English delft drug jars know the "Angel" design is the 17th century pattern which has the head of an angel with wings outspread over the inscription cartouche. The design which came in at the Restoration lasted until the turn of the Century 1660-1700.

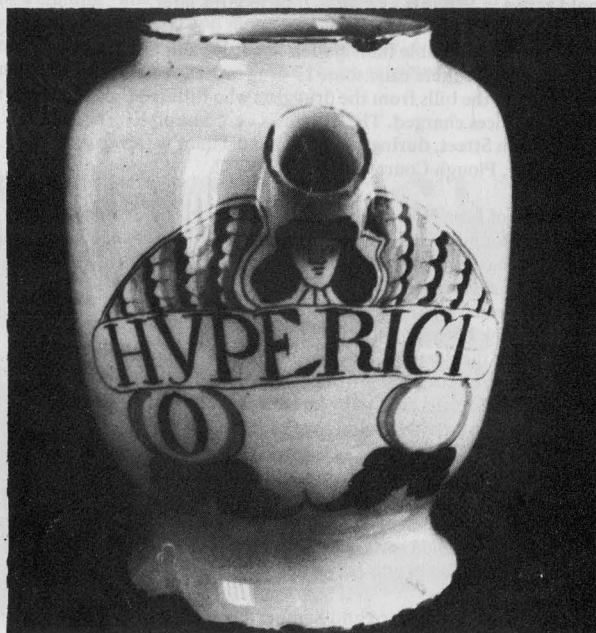
The drug jar illustrated O.HYPERICI is one of the last of the series; in fact the bluish glaze and straight spout are more typical of the 18th than of the 17th century. The decoration is blue on white and the base of the jar is glazed. The height is 18½cm (7¼in.). The inscription band originally a ribbon scroll the ends of which terminate in pennants near the base often enclosing the date and the initials of the apothecary for whom the jar was made. The pennants formed by the divided ribbon are a characteristic feature of the 17th century "Angel" drug jars. The pennants of O.HYPERICI are scarcely recognisable as such and show a marked deterioration in the design.

Oil of St. John's Wort is an infused oil. According to Quincy's *English Dispensary* 1728, Simple Oil of Hypericum then known as *Hypericum vulgare* was prepared from Olive Oil, Hypericum seeds and flowers. Quincy's *Dispensary of the Royal College of Physicians* 1721 gives a recipe for Compound Oil of Hypericum. In this the bruised flowering and fruiting tops of St. John's Wort are macerated in white wine and linseed oil for three days at a bath heat. The liquid is then pressed out, after which a second and third infusion is made without the wine. After the third infusion the mixed liquids are boiled until most of the wine has evaporated. Turpentine and Saffron are then added and the whole boiled gently. *The New Edinburgh Dispensary* of 1789 uses the botanical name of *Hypericum perforatum* which is the name used today for St. John's Wort. In this work it is stated "it is remarkable that the flower tops tinge expressed oils of a red colour, which very few vegetable substances will do. The oil tinged by them is kept in the shops".

According to Quincy the oil was held in great esteem amongst surgeons as an excellent "Discutient \* and Deterger", while the herb was considered good against the Stone and obstructions in the urinary passages, also for destroying worms. Paracelsus prescribed it in amulets against Enchantments and Apparitions when gathered in certain Aspects of the Planets.

\* Discutient is defined in *The Chemist's Dictionary of Medical Terms* as "Remedies that promote absorption or dissipation of morbid matter".

A. Lothian and G.R.A. Short



(2455-546)

# The Drug Suppliers of George Washington and other Virginians

By Dr. C.H. Spiers



The Virginians in pre-Revolutionary days had to obtain a large proportion of their raw materials and manufactured goods, including drugs and medicines, from abroad. Their chief source of wealth in the 18th century was tobacco and most citizens of any standing or substance were tobacco planters on a more or less large scale. Much of the tobacco was sent on a consignment basis to merchant houses in London, Bristol, Liverpool and Whitehaven, though in later years Scottish merchants in Glasgow entered into the trade making, however, direct purchases. Against the credits thus created, the English merchants bought for their clients on a commission basis a large variety of goods for their own uses or, in the cases of shopkeepers, including apothecaries and druggists, goods for resale. The planters used the merchants as bankers from whom money could be transferred to any firms from whom the planters might directly buy goods.

Amongst the merchant houses in London were Robert Cary and Co., John Norton and Sons, Edward and Samuel Athawes and Capel and Osgood Hanbury. The firm of Robert Cary and Co., 9 Watling St., was established early in the 18th century and they numbered Washington and Jefferson amongst their customers. Washington, after his marriage on January 6, 1759, to the wealthy widow Martha Custis, sold much tobacco through this firm. Every year, during one of the months between June and October, he would send to Cary's long lists of a large variety of goods he required for himself and family, his household and his plantations, and these would arrive in Virginia as long as nine months later.

We have considerable information about Washington's drug requirements for there exist some 13 drug orders as well as Cary's transcripts of the bills from the druggists who fulfilled those orders, giving the prices charged. The druggists were Joseph Etherington, Gracechurch Street, during 1759-1763 and Timothy Bevan and Sons or Son, Plough Court, during 1765-1772.

The firm of John Norton and Sons, Gould Square, Crutched Friars, was founded by George Hatley in the 1730's. He had been associated in commercial transactions with another Cary firm, John Cary and Co., Tower Hill, in the late seventeenth century. In the 1730's he formed a partnership with his stepson Flowerdew and then later took his nephew John Norton into partnership. John Norton, after the deaths of Hatley and Flowerdew, ran the firm under his own name, later introducing his two sons John Hatley and Flowerdew. Nortons had many important Virginian clients and there exist drug orders from three of them — Mann Page (1770), Peter Lyons (1771) and Thomas Everard (1773). Nortons also had some small dealings with Dr. James Carter, an apothecary who traded at the 'Unicorn's Horn', Williamsburg. Nortons obtained their drugs from Wellings, or Wellings and Slater, 7 Poultry. Wellings also supplied certain apothecaries directly, e.g. William Paster, William Biers and James Carter.

A third firm was Edward and Samuel Athawes, St. Martins Lane, Cannon St., which had such important clients as the Carters. Details exist of an order by Rawleigh Downman (1766). A fourth firm of indirect interest was Capel and Osgood Hanbury, Tower St.

This developed from a partnership between John Hanbury, Osgood's father, and his cousin Capel. Washington shipped much of the Custis tobacco through this firm until 1774 though there appear to be no records of orders for goods from Washington to the Hanburys. This firm is, however, of interest from the fact that, through Capel Hanbury, William Allen and Daniel Bell Hanbury took over the Bevan firm of Plough Court. This had been founded by Sylvanus Bevan in 1715 who took his brother Timothy into partnership in 1725. Sylvanus retired in 1765 and Timothy took over with his two sons Timothy junior and Sylvanus, forming the firm Timothy Bevan and Sons until 1767 when Sylvanus retired. Timothy junior died in 1773 and Timothy senior retired in 1775 in favour of a third son Joseph Gurney Bevan, who retired in 1794.

Capel Hanbury's daughter, Charlotte, married William Allen, who had joined Joseph Gurney Bevan in 1792, coming a partner with Mildred in 1795. Capel's son, also Capel, married Charlotte Bell, whose son, Daniel Bell Hanbury, joined his uncle William Allen in 1808, becoming a partner in 1824 and creating the firm Allen and Hanbury. The Bevan firm, as Quakers, rather tended to have business connections with Pennsylvania.

Another firm of druggists, Thomas Corbyn of the 'Bell and Dragon', Holborn, also had direct dealings with Virginia.

## Two medicine chests

The drugs and medicines ordered by Washington during the period 1759-1772 by Downman and the three Norton clients included no less than 123 different items. They may be compared with the contents of two medicine chests filled for use by the Revolutionary armies (Griffenhagen, 1961), which embraced 80 items, 18 of which were not included in any of the various orders. Eleven of the various botanicals in the chests were not ordered. Some of these, e.g. the Balsams of Copaiba, Peru and Tolu, may have been imported directly from the West Indies or Spanish America. It is strange that Peruvian bark, Jalap, also a Peruvian product, and Ipecacuan, obtained from Brazil were, however, ordered from London. Some botanicals were grown in Virginia, e.g. snake root and senna, as well as ginseng, neither were in the chests nor were they ordered. Snake root was known in the 17th century, not only as a remedy against snake bites, but also against the plague, smallpox, the 'measels' and even the bites of mad dogs. It was exploited in Virginia by Dr. John Tennent who wrote a book proclaiming its virtues. Many preparations described by Quincy (1733) included snake root and when George II's wife Caroline, was taken ill in 1737 with a strangulated hernia one of the remedies administered was snake root and brandy. Radix Serpentaria Virginiana was included in the mid-18th century catalogue of Sylvanus and Timothy Bevan and Norton's imported some in 1760 and 1767.

Ginseng was the root of a plant long esteemed in China for its restorative qualities. It was brought to European notice by a Jesuit



priest, Father Jartoux, by a publication of 1713. It was found in Virginia by William Byrd II, who called it the "King of Plants" and promoted its use. It was also found in Canada and Pennsylvania from whence a specimen was sent by James Logan to Sylvanus Bevan. It was grown in England by Peter Collinson in 1742. Norton's imported some from Virginia in 1767 and 1770 and indeed it became an important Virginian export, especially to the East Indies. Today it is grown in, and exploited by, the Korean Republic.

Rhubarb was commonly ordered from England, the best kind being obtained from China, via Moscow and St. Petersburg. In 1771, six years after the announcement that Dr. Hope had grown plants of the supposedly true and best rhubarb, *Rheum palmatum*, from seeds obtained from St. Petersburg, the Virginian botanist, John Clayton, ordered seeds of Palmatoo Rhubarb, 'fresh and good', from Norton's.

Washington and other planters evidently kept well stocked medicine chests and were inclined to treat common ailments on the basis of their experience and with the aid of the numerous medical and pharmaceutical works available in the 18th century, employing "more or less qualified physicians" and apothecaries for cases they deemed to require more expert attention. Washington himself ordered no less than 89 different drugs and medical products, including 7 patent medicines — Turlington's Balsam of Life; Greenough's Tincture for the Teeth; Dr. James's Powder; Stoughton's Bitters; Daffy's Elixir; Squire's Elixir and Mathews Pills. His order for Greenough's Tincture in 1759 possibly foreshadowed his dental troubles. As to Dr. James's powder, Washington had experienced its benefits when he had been dosed with it by Braddock's orders when serving under him in 1753 during the expedition against Fort Duquesne.

Virginians could have bought their drug requirements locally from apothecaries, such as Dr. James Carter of the Unicorn's Horn but, despite the long delay entailed, they found it advantageous to buy direct from London through the merchant houses to whom they consigned their tobacco. For one thing, they probably bought more cheaply, for another they obtained long credit which they exploited to their own advantage, living beyond their means. When hostilities broke out in 1775, many Virginians owed considerable amounts to the unfortunate London merchants.

## OBITUARY

### Dr. Claude H. Spiers

In his lecture to the Society Dr. Claude Spiers said he proposed to extend his research into drug and medicine suppliers of the 18th century who were concerned with exports to America. Alas! this was not to be — he died suddenly on 14 March while on a visit to a friend. After obtaining his doctorate at Cambridge he specialised in colloid chemistry and, following a long period as a Senior Lecturer at the Leathersellers' College, built up a European reputation as an expert and consultant in all aspects of leather chemistry and processing. With his friend John Waterer he helped to found the Museum of Leathercraft, of which he was the Hon. Curator. He was editor-in-chief of an International Technical Dictionary of Leather, now reaching publication after many years' work with Continental colleagues. His industry was intense. As a historian he published selectively but always with accuracy. His interests were widespread, the Society of Antiquaries, the Glass Circle, the Osler Club, the Post-Medieval Society and our own Society. The technical processes employed in the arts fascinated him. He was a knowledgeable collector of paintings, glass, pottery and scientific and pharmaceutical treasures. His interest and advice in many fields will be greatly missed by a wide circle of friends.

L.G.M.

## LETTERS

### Thomas Baskerville

Sir, Below a small postscript to an earlier paper. Perhaps you can find room for it in The Pharmaceutical Historian.

Prof G.E. Trease,  
Crediton, Devon EX17 2DS.

In a paper entitled "Thomas Baskerville, Elizabethan apothecary of Exeter" (*Trans. Br. Soc. for History of Pharmacy*, 1970) we were only able to trace Thomas' career from his marriage in 1571 to his death in 1596. The recent publication of "The Devon Muster Roll for 1569" (A.L. Howard and T.L. Stoate, 1977) throws earlier light on his origin. This muster roll names only one Baskerville in the whole of Devon. In the small parish of Jacobstow in the Hundred of Black Torrington is listed under "Archers" the name "Thomas Baskerfield" (op.cit. p.96). In his will our apothecary spells his name Baskerville. In the 1596 inventory of his property we noted in the kitchen (in addition to armour, musket, fowling piece, rapier and dagger) "a bowe and quyer of arrowes", the latter a reminder that 27 years earlier he had mustered as an archer.

### Paracelsus Film

To a large gathering of those with a liking for that distinguished, if often wayward, physician, chemist and botanist — Paracelsus — the Bio-Strath Foundation provided through the documentary film "Paracelsus, 1493-1541" an evening of enjoyment at the Royal Institution, in January 1977. Here, they could follow the youthful son of William von Hohenheim, a village doctor in Switzerland, through his apprenticeship to mining, his academic studies in various universities, always a wanderer, to Padua, where he may have graduated. Service as an army doctor gave him a deeper knowledge of surgery, to be used in later life with great advantage to his patients. His various municipal appointments were not always a success, he was no friend to bureaucracy, and his zest for non-orthodox practice disconcerted the formalists. The film depicted his search for novel remedies, chemical and botanical and his theories, e.g. the quintessence of things and the "complexions of the elements. Paracelsus had inner promptings, not always clear to his associates. Before his tragic end in poverty in Salzburg, almost friendless, he had written numerous treatises which set out his views on God, the Universe and most created things. It was some long time before his valuable ideas were studied and practised.

The making of the film sprang from an idea of Mlle. Simoney, who was supported by the personal interest of Mr. F. Pestalozzi, managing director, Bio-Strath Ltd., Zurich. The Bio-Strath Foundation and the Swiss authorities sponsored its production. Mr Van Straten and Mr Pestalozzi introduced the film and Prof E.J. Shellard gave a talk in which he discussed the doctrines of Paracelsus and his contributions in the spheres of medicine and chemistry and in particular his theory of "Like Cures Like" and the relevance of the work of Paracelsus to modern pharmacology.

L.G. Matthews

# Cased Bottles and Syringes

By W.A. Jackson

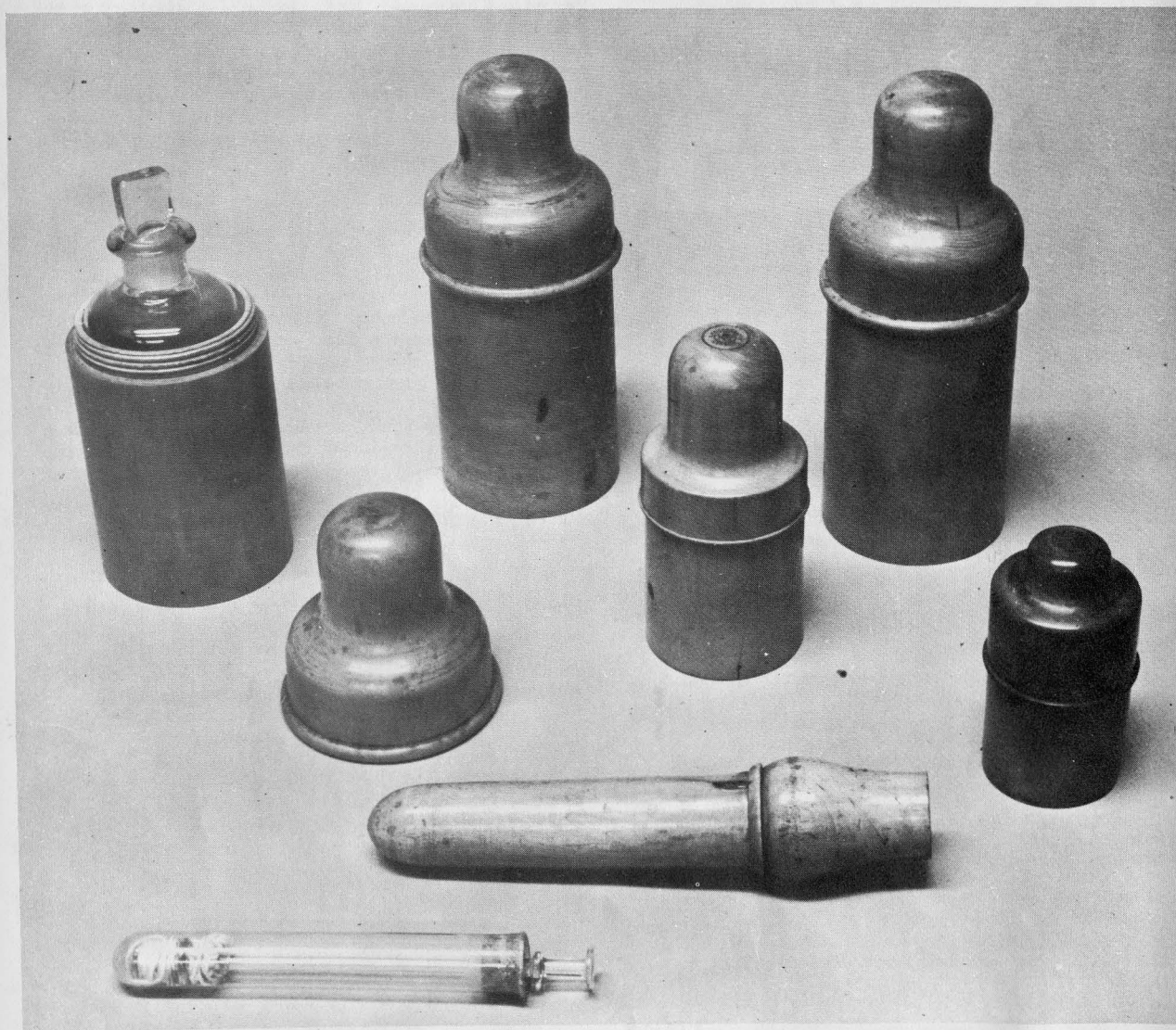
Any regular visitor to the flea markets, which have become so popular recently, will be familiar with the glass stoppered bottles in their protective wooden cases which were designed to withstand the rigours of travel in Victorian times. Without these, transporting one's medicine before the days of screw caps must have been a hazardous affair.

The great majority of them were made between 1840 and the beginning of the 20th century from boxwood, which was then French polished. They were produced by skilled turners, and all those I have seen have been of good quality. The shaped top unscrews, exposing the shoulder, neck and stopper of the bottle. Internally, the tops have a domed cavity, into which the shoulder of the bottle fits, above this is a cylindrical hole which accepts

the bottle's neck, and, on the larger specimens, there is a hole of smaller diameter which will only receive the stopper. Often, they still contain a plug of cotton wool which held the stopper firmly in place in the neck of the bottle.

Most of the bottles display no mould marks, possibly the body of the bottle having been blown into a cylindrical mould and the necks finished by hand-tooling. The stoppers usually show two mould marks on the shoulder below diagonally opposed corners of the flat thumb-piece.

There is a fair variation in size, the overall heights of those in my collection ranging from approximately 9 cms. to 18 cms., accommodating bottles whose capacity varied between 1 fl. oz. and 8 fl. ozs. An Allen and Hanburys' catalogue of 1930<sup>1</sup> lists





1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 oz. bottles in boxwood cases priced from 3s 6d. to 11s. each.

Sometimes the name of a pharmaceutical wholesaler is stamped on top of the lid. I have one which is marked 'LYNCH & Co. LONDON.', and another, 'S. MAW, SON & SONS LONDON'. Pinto<sup>2</sup> also gives examples bearing the marks; S. Maw & Sons (Sic) of London, S. Maw, Son & Thompson, and Pearce & Co. of London and Bristol.

A few bottle cases were made of lignum vitae or ebony. I have only one ebony specimen (overall height approximately 12 cms.) which is also unusual in containing a saltmouth instead of a narrow-necked bottle. Both bottle and stopper are hand-made, the base of the bottle having a cut pontil.

I have seen these bottle cases described as medicine glass holders<sup>3</sup>, but the elaborate turning of the top would be pointless if they were to be used for this purpose. The only wooden medicine glass cases which I have seen have been made from softwood, and have flat push-on lids.

In addition to the medicine bottles described above, it is possible to find similarly cased perfume bottles. These are much smaller in size. My sole example has an overall height of approximately 8 cms. but is very narrow, the bottle having a capacity of only one drachm. The stopper is prolonged into a glass rod which almost reaches the bottom of the bottle, and was used to apply the perfume to the skin. The case is still simple in design, having one additional ridge on the lid, but some display more elaborate turning.

Less desirable, but still collectable, are the bottles with nickel-plated metal cases. Some of these had screw-on lids, but the majority had a three stud bayonet closure. The stopper was held in position and the bayonet fitting secured by a spring-loaded cork mounted in the top of the lid. All those I have seen have globe stoppers, not square thumb pieces as in the earlier wooden cased bottles.

Boxwood cases were also made for syringes, but seem to be rather scarce. I have only found one example, of overall length 19 cms. The cap is a push-on instead of a screw closure, — probably the greater weight of a bottle with its contents made a screw top necessary for security. The case holds a glass vaginal syringe with cotton piston. Pinto illustrates three cases roughly similar in shape, as well as one which is gourd-shaped and contains a syringe with a short nozzle and rubber ball reservoir. All the cases are noticeably larger at one end, — possibly to reduce the chance of their rolling off a flat surface.

I suppose screw-capped plastic bottles are just as functional, and certainly lighter in weight, but I doubt if they will ever have the charm of these craftsman-made containers.

## REFERENCES

1. Surgical Instruments Appliances and Hospital Equipment, Allen & Hanburys Ltd., London, 1930, p.1055.
2. Treen and Other Wooden Bygones, by Edward H. Pinto, G. Bell & Sons, London, 1969, pp. 14 & 15, plate 7. (Pinto states, "These include S. Maw & Sons of London from about 1850 to 1875, who became, from 1878 to approximately the end of the century, S. Maw Son & Thompson, and Pearce & Co. of London & Bristol, recorded in 1866 and 1867". J.K. Crellin in Medical Ceramics, Vol.1., Wellcome Institute of the History of Medicine, London, 1969, p.109, dates Maw's titles as; S. Maw & Son, 1860–1870; S. Maw, Son & Thompson, 1870–1901; and S. Maw, Son & Sons, post–1901).
3. Pharmaceutical Antiques, 11. Wooden utensils, mortars and measures, Pharmaceutical Journal, December 26, 1970, p.722.

# St. Helier Pharmacy Museum

John Ereaud established himself as a chemist and druggist in 1813 in Bath Street, St. Helier, and in the same year John Aubin opened his shop at the corner of King Street and Halkett Place. By 1837, according to the local almanac there were twelve chemists practising on the island, though the Ereaud and Aubin pharmacies were dominant.

Ereaud's elder son John was trained by his father and became an Associate of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in 1857. He received a bronze medal for a collection of 468 plants indigenous to Jersey, all named and classified. Another authority on the local flora was John Piquet, a rather older apprentice of John Ereaud, senior. He had started in 1837 as an errand boy, and then after a five year apprenticeship he set up his own pharmacy at the other end of the town in York Street in 1847. There Piquet also extracted teeth. He lived to a great age and it is said that he often swam in the open sea until he was 86.

He bought the Aubin pharmacy for his son Francis G. Piquet in the early 1880's. When T.A. Moignard joined this firm in 1910 the shop had been little altered. There was a range of gold-labelled drawers with immaculate shelving and show cases in light oak above, which held Mr. Piquet's own manufactured proprieties. The front of the dispensary cabinet was reserved for Eau de Cologne, exclusive perfumery and the Euphrasia specialities. His own Eau de Cologne, in which he took great pride, retailed at four ounces for a shilling "and a penny back on the bottle." In the basement syphons were filled and mineral water bottled. The water supply came from an artesian well under the premises. A wide range of veterinary preparations were made as might be expected, though





The pharmacy at the museum of The Societe Jersiaise, Jersey, C.I.

it would seem Ereaud's had the larger veterinary practice. Until 1966, Piquet's made the wax, to a four hundred year old formula, for the sealing of Royal Court contracts.

In the course of time the furnishings and equipment of the Ereaud and Aubin pharmacies came into the possession of Mr. Moignard and formed the nucleus of a pharmaceutical exhibition, which was first suggested by Philip Larbalestier M.P.S. Mr. Larbalestier himself gave some rare glassware. Maceration bottles bearing designs in gold, the old scales in the original case, an old prescription book, flasks and a retort all came from Ereaud's, whilst the chief contribution from the Piquet-Aubin pharmacy is four large specie jars. They were on show at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Two smaller jars are from the window of Mr Adams' (late Miller) pharmacy in King Street.

The fine mahogany fittings of the museum pharmacy, made by Bowling and Glover in 1887, were saved from Le Quesne's pharmacy in Halkett Place when it was modernised in 1972. On display are a leech jar, brass hand-made drachm weights, carboys, stone pestle and mortars and recipe books, one dating back to 1822. There is also a comprehensive range of proprietary medicines.

#### Acknowledgments —

Photographs: The Societe Jersiaise

Publications: The Pharmacy Exhibition of

Authentic and Obsolete Equipment. T.A. Moignard. Bulletin of Soc. Jers. 1972 (Vol. 20 pp. 385-7)

Notes: Mrs. W.E. Macready.

## Mellins – The Chemist

Recently the Local History Committee of the Eltham Society brought out a short pamphlet called "Mellins the Chemist". This pharmacy of 90, High Street, Eltham, S.E.9 closed in March 1972 after a pharmaceutical life of over a hundred years. The origin of the practice seems to lie with a Robert Roberts; next door in 1867 was the grocers shop of Frederick Roberts, probably a relation. It was not at all unusual for two brothers to run adjoining businesses, one a pharmacy, the other a grocer's; only a few years ago Wraggs the Grocer and Wraggs the Chemist were to be found side by side in Rustlings Road, Sheffield.

Mellins — named after Charles Jeremiah Mellin who had taken over by 1870 — is a Grade II listed building. It dates from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century, has a curved mansard roof, is weather-boarded at one end and has a painted brick front with parapet and cornice band. The premises have been acquired by John Gill, an architect, who has on permanent loan from the Eltham Society bottles and jars which with three mirrored glass display signs were saved at the time of the closure. These have been incorporated into the new fittings of the restaurant, into which the shop has been converted.

The pamphlet gives some details from the prescription book for November 1897, and is attractively illustrated. It may be obtained from Mr. J. Kennett, 22 Larchwood Road, London SE9 3SF.





# PHARMACEUTICAL HISTORIAN

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Newsletter of the BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY  
Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S., D.B.A. 36 York Place · Edinburgh · EH1 3HU

## British Pharmaceutical Conference

The history of pharmacy session begins at 2.15 pm. on Tuesday September 13 in the Firth Hall, Sheffield University.

Dr. F.C. Tring is presenting a paper "Thomas Holloway and his patent pills", followed by Mrs. J. Burnby, president, who is to speak on "Derbyshire Apothecaries".

It is hoped to arrange a display relating to Thomas Holloway's pills and ointments.

## Grabowski collection

London art dealer and pharmacy owner, Mr. Mateusz Bronislaw Grabowski, who died in 1976 and who formed a collection of drug jars and pharmacy antiques, left it to Poland and the collection is now in a Cracow museum. The collection includes portraits and documents. Mr. Grabowski had his own art gallery in London. (*Daily Telegraph*, London, 30 June 1977)

## Centenary celebration

When the French celebrate they do it in style. For the centenary of the death of Antoine-Jerome Balard, discoverer of bromine in 1826 a large party of members of the French History of Pharmacy Society went to Montpellier for a week-end in October 1976. There they discussed all aspects of Balard's professional life, his ownership of a pharmacy there, his discoveries, his period in Paris as a professor and his immense contribution to halogen chemistry. To round it off, the Society has now given over a whole issue of the *Revue d'Histoire de la Pharmacie* (No. 232, March 1977) to a series of articles relating to all facets of Balard's work.



Mrs. Agnes Lothian Short

## Honour for founder member

Mrs. Agnes Lothian Short has been awarded the Schelenz-Plakette of the International Society for the History of Pharmacy (IGGP) for 1977 in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the history of pharmacy. Mrs. Short is the first woman to receive the award which commemorates the pharmaceutical historian Herman Schelenz.

Mrs. Short played an important part in the formation of the History of Pharmacy Committee in 1952 and as a founder member of the Society. She was made an honorary member in 1975. As librarian of the Pharmaceutical Society from 1940 to 1967 she was largely responsible for building up the Society's historical collection.

# Lupton of Levenshulme

By W.A. JACKSON

Until quite recently far fewer monochrome pot lids were known than polychrome. (C. Williams-Wood (1) listed 228 and 588 respectively in 1972.) However, the recent craze for 'dump-digging' as a hobby is rapidly changing this situation. Many lids which had not sufficient aesthetic appeal to be preserved in the home are now being unearthed from Victorian rubbish dumps. Most of the monochrome lids referred to above are those of widely distributed products, manufactured by well-known companies such as Atkinson's, Boot's Gosnell's and Maws', but now literally hundreds of previously unlisted lids are on sale in junk shops throughout the country. Many of these came from single shops, and can only have been used in relatively small numbers, their distribution being confined to a strictly limited area. In 1975, Edward Fletcher (2) listed 478 monochrome lids (excluding variations), but suggests that there may have been as many as 4,000 different ones altogether. Certainly, his list is far from complete as my own small collection includes four specimens which he does not mention.

## *Cold cream and toothpaste*

Two of these, for "Lupton's Otto of Rose Cold Cream" and "Lupton's British Toothpaste", are from a Levenshulme chemist. These particularly interested me because I had never heard of Lupton although I spent most of my childhood in Levenshulme. To see if I could learn anything about him, I took the lids along to an old friend, the late Mr. Charles Simpson, a local pharmacist who had retired some years earlier, and in whose dispensary I spent many Saturday afternoons when I was a schoolboy. The results of this visit were certainly beyond my expectations.

It transpired that Mr. Simpson had bought Lupton's pharmacy in the early 1920's, and he was able to tell me that, at one time, Edward Lupton had worked for Jewsbury and Brown, well-known as retail and manufacturing chemists in Manchester in the 19th century. (3) When he purchased the shop, the cellar contained some unused toothpaste pots and an

earthenware drug jar which held the bulk stock of the pink toothpaste. He could not remember what had happened to these, but presumably they had been thrown out at some time in the past. In addition, he gave me two notebooks which had belonged to Edward Lupton, one dated 1864, and the other undated but containing the address, 2 Farmside, Levenshulme.

## *Tracing the address*

The records of the Pharmaceutical Society show that Edward Lupton was registered at 49 Everton Road, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester in 1889. In 1891, he moved to 2 Farmside, Levenshulme, near Manchester; and in 1910 the address changed to 84 Stockport Road, near Manchester, where he remained until 1922, when Mr. Simpson bought the business. Manchester street directories show that, in 1891, Farmside consisted of three sets of premises, numbered 1 to 3, on Stockport Road, lying between numbers 54 and 68. (Apparently, numbers 56 to 66 did not exist.) I was fascinated to find that No. 1 Farmside had been occupied by Oliver Heggs, plumber and painter. When I was at school in the 1930's one of my classmates, the son of a local plumber, was named Oliver Heggs. In 1910, Stockport Road was re-numbered, and 2 Farmside became 84 Stockport Road. A small road between numbers 86 and 88 called Farmside Place is listed in this directory, and this is still in existence although Stockport Road has been renumbered at least twice since then. So, finally, I was able to confirm that the room in which I had first become interested in pharmacy had been Lupton's dispensary.

The notebooks present an interesting picture of the work that was carried out here between 1891 and 1922. They contain a miscellaneous collection of formulae for medicines, toiletries, veterinary products, and household items such as sauces and polishes. Several of them, including the only one for cold cream are marked "J. & B.'s", so in all probability, Lupton's 'Otto of Rose Cold Cream' was



made to the same formula as Jewsbury and Brown's 'Superior Cold Cream of Roses'. The formula given is:

"Rx. Cera Alb	3 oz
Cetaceum	3 oz
Aqua Rosa	5 oz
Ol Amygd Dulc	15 oz
Otto	20 drops
Ess Bergam	1 drachm

His formula for toothpaste has marginal additions to it, which suggests that he modified the original on more than one occasion. This finally became:

"Rx. Creta ppt	8 oz
Alum pulv	2 oz
Soda Carb	1 oz
Lapis pumice	9 oz
Cream Tartar	9 oz
Cochineal	2 oz
Pulv Myrrh	3 oz
Orris Root	6 oz
Ol Cloves	
Ol Cassia	
Ol Amygd	aa 2 drachm
Mellis Dep "	(q.s.)

In addition to this, he made quinine, homeopathic remedies and violet tooth powders as well as saponaceous and carbonized tooth tablets. In these, the powders were massed to a stiff paste with honey and glycerin, then probably pressed into a mould and allowed to dry. A two ounce tablet retailed for one shilling. Other toiletries include aromatic vinegar (probably for use in vinaigrettes), a red lip salve, milk of roses, lime cream, jaborandi hair lotion, and Persian pomade. Perfumes must have had a ready sale

as he lists fourteen different formulae, including, "Levenshulme Bouquet", "Bloom of the Heath", and of course, that old favourite "Jockey Club".

When my family moved to Levenshulme in 1932, it was completely suburban in character, but the 1895 Ordnance Survey map of the area (4) shows that at that time much of it was still farmland. An entry, dated August 16, 1895, in one of Lupton's notebooks is for a horse powder containing eleven ingredients (total weight 20½ ozs.) which was sold for two shillings to H. Parr Esq. of Alma Park. This was a gentleman's house set in a small estate, later to be demolished to make way for Alma Park Elementary School, which I was to attend. Other veterinary items are mange ointment, purging pills for sheep, foot rot ointment and mixture, and blisters for horses, as well as liquid brass polish (for Mr. Taylor's coachman), harness blacking and leather softener.

#### *Household items*

There is a rich assortment of household items unlikely to be made in the dispensary nowadays. In addition to such mundane items as currie (sic) powder, salad dressing, mushroom catsup, ginger beer powders and furniture cream, we come across red fire (three different formulae), waterproof composition for boots, blacking for dress boots and a powerful concoction entitled "Mr. Sylvester's British Navy Sauce" which contained: cayenne pepper, black pepper, long pepper, shallots, garlic, mace, tamarinds, vinegar and Indian soy.

The medicinal formulae are mainly for extemporaneous pills and mixtures, but also include some for wrapped powders, confections, lozenges,



ointments, and tinctures prepared by maceration. One of the most interesting entries is a remedy for sneezing which was prepared from chloral hydrate, camphor, carbolic acid, morphine dissolved on oleic acid, and castor oil. Presumably, this was sniffed up the nose. Worm powders were made from equal quantities of mercurous chloride, scammony, potassium sulphate and jalap, the dose varying from six grains for a two year old child to twenty grains for an adult. His black draught is a more potent preparation than those which were official in the British Pharmacopoeias of the period, and was made from: senna leaves, jalap, ginger, "Succ. Italic" (liquorice block juice?), ammonium carbonate, treacle, magnesium sulphate, aromatic spirit of ammonia, compound tincture of cardamoms and water.

The sixth edition of the Extra Pharmacopoeia (1890) stated that boric lint was prepared by passing lint through a hot, saturated solution of boric acid, coloured with cochineal or litmus, and then drying it. This produced a lint containing about 50 per cent boric acid. (5) However, Lupton used a solution containing only two drachms of boric acid in sixteen ounces of water. Two yards of lint were soaked in this and then dried before the fire, makin a lint which must have contained far less boric acid than was usual at this time. Instead of using cochineal or litmus to dye the lint pink, he added four drachms of Tinct. Lavand Co. to the solution in which it was soaked.

I must confess to a certain amount of regret that this type of dispensing will probably never be known again. Of one thing I am quite certain — I would have been much more at home in Lupton's dispensary than he would ever have been in mine.

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## Acknowledgement

The author wishes to thank Miss D. Jones of the Pharmaceutical Society's library for her assistance.

# A pharmaceutical museum

A pharmaceutical museum in his back garden is the achievement of Mr. John Newstead, pharmacist in Norwich. The aim of the museum is to give a picture of pharmacy in East Anglia during the last 70 years or so. The museum in the form of a pharmacy, is the result of 12 years' active collecting by Mr. Newstead and was opened officially by Mr. Leslie G. Matthews recently. Present at the ceremony were the President and Secretary of the Society.

At the opening Mr. Matthews said that for almost eight centuries Norwich had benefited greatly from its spicers, grocers, apothecaries and chemists. The designations had changed but broadly the same kind of services to the public had continued.

Some apothecaries had held the high office of Mayor or Sherriff. Their memorials were to be seen in many Norwich churches dating from medieval times.

Mr. and Mrs. Newstead had brought together material from all over the world and what was displayed were items actually used in the service of earlier generations of Norfolk people.

## Prominent citizens

During the last century, and well into this century, many chemists and pharmacists were prominent citizens of Norwich. There were the Smiths, the De Carles, A.J. Caley who turned to the manufacture of chocolate and mineral waters, Octavius Corder of London Street, and Robert Fitch, Sheriff in 1868, who was said to have served in a white apron behind the counter for over 60 years. He was an antiquary too and had rather anticipated John Newstead. Fitch's collections of flints and medieval antiquities were left to the Castle Museum and part are still in the Fitch Room there. Mr. Matthews, formally declaring the museum open, said there would be no need for a Newstead Room in the Castle for the Newstead Museum was here for all to see and enjoy.

The building, said Mr. Newstead, had been constructed to dimensions suitable to contain all the material he had collected, and to keep to the approximate size of the pharmacy from which a large





The oldest exhibit was a piece of timber from the arched cellar of the Wolsey Pharmacy, Ipswich, dating back to 1540 and built next to the house where Cardinal Wolsey was born. Across the back of the dispensary was a mid 19th century sign advertising Hunyddi Janos, a mineral water from Hungary. There was also a copper two-gallon spirit measure carrying Victorian, Georgian and William IV stamps.

Mr. Newstead intends to catalogue everything in his collection, and to continue to record and add items as they become available. It will not be a static museum, he explained. "History is really a living thing."

Although the terms of his planning permission prevent the museum being opened to the public, private viewings may be arranged with Mr. Newstead at 34 Boundary Road, Norwich.

Left: Mr. Newstead invites Mr. Matthews to enter.

Below: an external view.

proportion of the shop fittings had come. The design was based on photographs taken in the 1920's.

The original shopfront had a disastrous fate, said Mr. Newstead. After being carefully removed from Whittlesea it was damaged by vandals while in store and on its final journey it was broken yet again.

On examination the remainder was found to be held together by many layers of paint, so the whole shopfront was reconstructed using the original pieces as templates.

The fittings were all in use up to a few years ago in at least six different East Anglian pharmacies and have been pieced together to form a complete layout. Much of the material was crumbling with woodworm and dry rot so had to be destroyed; all that Mr. Newstead could salvage in some cases were the mahogany fronts and knobs. However, some of his best treasures were in those drawers, eg. real tortoiseshell combs for ladies and early silver-capped perfume bottles with the original price of 2s 8d still inside. There were "chemists own" preparations ranging from fruit salt crystals to straw hat cleaner, as well as the usual packed "wet" and "dry" goods such as senna pods, sulphur ointment etc.



# Thomas Henry Tyrrell

By A.L. FARLOW

*Following the appearance of the census details of Thomas Henry Tyrrell in the **Pharmaceutical Journal** I have been able to find out a little more about him. I regret there was no report of the conclusion of the case.*

Thomas Henry Tyrrell appeared in the census of 1871, with details as given below:—  
Luton RG 10 1570  
24 Wellington Street

Name	Relation to Head of House	Marital Status	Age	Occupation
Thomas H. Tyrrell	Head	Married	37 yrs	Chemist
Sarah A. Tyrrell	Wife	Married	37 yrs	
Thomas S. Tyrrell	Son		9 yrs	
Samuel R. Tyrrell	Son		3 yrs	
Alfred Tyrrell	Brother	Unmarried	16 yrs	Chemists Apprentice

From the census one learns that Thomas Tyrrell senior was born in the Isle of Wight at Cowes. His wife was born in Middlesex, and gave birth to their two children in Luton. Alfred, who was twenty-one years younger than his brother, was born in Lancing, Surrey.

Tyrrell is known to have at least two other addresses at which he had retail businesses: 58 Wellington Street, (Kelly's Directory of Bedfordshire, 1864) and 10 Wellington Street, (Kelly's Trade Directory, 1885). The latter is debatable as in 1891 his address is given as in the census of 1871.

On November 19, 1891, the *Luton News and Bedfordshire Chronicle* printed an article entitled "A Chemist's Bankruptcy". The public examination was arranged for the following Tuesday, liabilities being expected to rank £483 11s 3d. The Official Receiver reported that the business had commenced about 27 years prior to this turn of events with a capital of about £200. Tyrrell, however, had, on October 16 1890, assigned to his son Thomas, by way of a bill-of-sale, the whole of his stock-in-trade, fixtures, fittings, and good will, the consideration being that the son paid on his behalf the sum of £101 0s. 5d. The debtor's furniture was assigned to his wife two years previously in consideration of advances made out of her private income. The insolvency was attributed to heavy litigation concerning some property in London.

The *Luton News and Bedfordshire Chronicle* reported in the following week that the public examination was held on the previous Monday, and that the debtor's statement of affairs had shown gross liabilities to be £963 11s. 8d. The amount of unsecured creditors was £483 11s. 3d. and as the assets amounted to nil, that amount was the deficiency.

When Thomas Tyrrell junior took over the business from his father he employed his father, at the shop, and presumably as a chemist.

It was understood that Tyrrell senior had kept no books of account, but the causes of insolvency did not include this factor, but rather that his dealings in property had led to his financial failure. In 1875 he had bought the lease of premises in Slayter Street, Bethnal Green, with Messrs. Eason and Reynolds subsequently becoming the ground landlords who eventually sued him for dilapidation of the premises. Tyrrell senior had no idea, apparently,

of his insolvency until the aforementioned pair had obtained judgement against him, and from that moment he had not contracted any further debts.

At that time, the younger Thomas Tyrrell was 28 years old, and was said to be a musician, who also helped his father in the shop during the day.

Thomas Tyrrell junior had obtained the money for his father from friends, in order to purchase the business, but even when the business was technically his, it carried on trading under its original title, and no effort was made to inform the public that the business had changed hands.

The arrangement between the father and son took the following line:—

Thomas Tyrrell senior "was not the proprietor of the business; he only managed it for his son. His son was the master and the debtor was the man."

His salary was not a fixed one. He was questioned by a Mr. Boyes at the public examination. "Could you be employed by anyone else in that way?" asked Mr. Boyes. The debtor: "He is my son." Mr. Boyes: "I think that explains a great deal."

Further questioning by Mr. Boyes revealed that the father's earnings had been the profits of the business, and that the takings averaged between two and three pounds per week. The profits of the business were said to have been more, but Tyrrell senior had not the slightest idea what they may have been for two or three years previous to that time. He had not kept any form of accounts as the business was, as he called it, a ready-money one. He had never taken stock, and could not tell what the stock was at the time of the transfer, although he stated that, had he wanted to sell the business on the open market, he would have sold it for the same amount as his son had paid for the same. In fact he would rather have sold it to a stranger.

## Letters

### Opium sales

I am working on a history of English narcotic use, concentrating in particular on the use of opium and its derivatives in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The main focus of the research is an examination of the process whereby opium, a drug once freely available and openly sold in every type of shop, gradually became restricted, and its regular users classified as ill or deviant in some way.

Part of this research has involved interviews, or correspondence, with pharmacists who remember dispensing opium prior to 1920. Those who practised in the Fenland areas, where opiate consumption was notably high, are a particularly interesting source of information and reminiscence.

I wonder if other members of the Society have conducted such interviews, or have contacts with any elderly pharmacists who would be willing to talk to me about opium.

Virginia Berridge  
Addiction Research Unit  
101 Denmark Hill  
London SE5 8AF



# In praise of fires and local records

By J.G.L. BURNBY

Gradually we are piecing together the lives of the apothecaries of the 17th and 18th centuries. We know now something of their families, their work, their interests and even in some cases the houses in which they lived and practised.

In 1694 Warwick had a disastrous fire in which almost the whole centre of the town was gutted. The Record Office at Warwick holds a book entitled "The Booke of estimates of the Loss by Fire". From it we learn that in the High Street there were four apothecaries. Thomas Watts had owned his house but now it was apparently a total wreck because the damage was assessed at £200 and its contents at £144 10s. Henry Rogers was also a house owner but fortunately it had survived the holocaust, though his "loss in Goods and Money" was estimated to be £145. Further along this street was Mrs Askell, apothecary. She had rented her house from a Mr and Mrs Lee Scott and its loss was valued at £240 and the contents at £280. She seems to have had a partner, Eliza Roberts, apothecary, whose losses were £70. As immediate neighbours these apothecaries had a midwife, Sara Ryder, a surgeon, Abram Simons and a Doctor of Physick, Mr Holden. In a sense unfortunately the doctor does not seem to have sustained any damage so that no comparison between his and the apothecaries' material wealth can be made.

In nearby Castle Street there were two more apothecaries. John Bradshawe had rented his house from Robert Boyce Esq. and it had incurred £300's worth of damage, so it had probably been razed to the ground. He had lost £51 11s. of goods and money. John Bradshawe is said to have built 2 Jury Street, Warwick, which is now known as the Pageant House "sometime before 1764." (W.R.O. 11-22. Deeds and Titles of the Greenaway family.) Mrs Anne Edea, apothecary, seems to have leased her premises from the town and it had not been destroyed by the fire, but nevertheless she lost £50 in goods, and her daughter Frances £3. Mrs Edes was probably the widow of John Edes, an apothecary in Warwick who in 1687 sold his

house "being a corner house near the cross in Warwick" to Oliver Pawlet of Kenilworth and Robert Boyse of Wellesbourne (W.R.O. 556/361).

Originally it had been intended to give compensation at the rate of eight shillings in the pound but owing to inflation and the circulation of foreign currency in the country this hope was never fulfilled.

## A similar disaster

Nearly 40 years later, in 1731, Blandford Forum in Dorset fell victim to a similar disaster. The town was rebuilt in the next 30 years and today is a notable example of an 18th century market town. The old street plan was not materially altered except for an enlargement of the market place. An Act of Parliament was obtained for the restoration and Parliament set up a Court of Record which was empowered to make rules for the re-building.

There were five main classes of house type. Group I comprised detached houses with a ground floor of a central hall and staircase with a room either side. There were two bedrooms on the next floor, and smaller bedrooms with dormer windows in the attic. At the rear was a lower wing which accommodated the kitchen and scullery with small rooms above. In these houses lived the professional men and the more prominent merchants.

Groups II and III for the shop keepers and middle class are to be found in the centre of the town in and around the market place. The houses are in terraces, frequently three stories high, with the entrance to one side of the facade, opening into a narrow passage which leads to the staircase at the back. There were two rooms, one behind the other on the ground floor and the same on the floor above. In nearly every case the front room either originally or later was converted into a shop.

The work of reconstruction was largely under the guidance of two brothers John and William Bastard, master builders. John lived in 75 East Street and cost him £704 10s. to re-build. Adjoining is 26 The Market Place. This building cost Bastard £420 and at that time consisted of two houses, one of which was leased by Mr Morgan, a brasier and the other by Mr Price, apothecary. The facade of the three houses closely resembles that of the nearby Red Lion and both have a central carriageway leading to a back yard.

It is interesting to speculate whether Blandford's famous



The Ministry of Labour is 26 The Market Place and was the home of Messrs. Morgan and Price. Electric House is 75 East Street and was the home of John Bastard.

apothecary/naturalist Richard Pulteney F.R.S. succeeded Mr Price in this building or perhaps, because he was already established he took over The Old House. This unusual house was built in the late 17th century by a Doctor Joachim Frederick Sagittary. (Of German descent he entered Queens College, Oxford at the age of 17 in 1634 and gained his M.D. in 1661.) Richard Pulteney was born at Loughborough, Leicestershire in 1730 and was educated at the local grammar school. His uncle George Tomlinson of nearby Hathern introduced him to the joys of botany and he made his first contribution to the *Gentlemen's Magazine* on "The Seeds of Fungi" when he was 20. At this time he was apprenticed to a Mr Harris, an apothecary in Loughborough who later moved to Mountsorrel some five miles away.

Pulteney set up as a surgeon and apothecary in Leicester. In 1764 accompanied by Doctor Garthshore he travelled to Edinburgh University to be awarded an M.D. The following year he started in practice in Blandford. He died in 1801; although buried at Langton there is a memorial to him in the south aisle of Blandford church. It is simple and decorated only with a sculpture of an urn and a papilionaceous plant of an Australian genus named *Pultenoea* in his honour by Sir J.E. Smith.

From the material that has so far been studied it would seem that these apothecaries of the 17th and 18th centuries lived in reasonably easy circumstances and were certainly well known members of their communities.

#### Acknowledgements

Illustration by kind permission of The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England)

## Tradescant memorial

By ROSEMARY NICHOLSON

The Tradescant Trust has been formed to restore the disused church of St. Mary, Lambeth (Old Lambeth Church) as a centre for all interests devoted to gardens, gardening and conservation, and to develop the churchyard as a Garden to the memory of the two Tradescants, both gardeners to Charles I, who are buried in the churchyard. Between them they introduced from their world travels so many new trees, shrubs, herbaceous and climbing plants that they can truly be said to have laid the foundation of English gardening.

The planting of the churchyard with trees, shrubs and flowers introduced by the Tradescants was begun in time for the Jubilee Celebrations.

Its progress interested Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and on July 18 she most graciously paid a visit to the Garden, and spent almost an hour inspecting the new plantings and meeting those responsible for forming the Trust and for undertaking the work of transforming the churchyard. Last year, what is now a charming, if perforce immature garden, was a scene of overgrown dereliction, scattered with every form of rubbish and litter.

On the afternoon of July 18, the old church, now stripped of all its furnishings, came to life with beautiful arrangements of flowers as an animated gathering of friends and supporters joined the Tradescant Trust for tea before the Queen Mother's arrival.

Her Majesty had been present at a function in Lambeth Palace, and walked the few yards to Old Lambeth Church accompanied by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Coggan and the Mayor and Mayoress of Lambeth. The Queen Mother looked charming in a pink and blue flowered dress with a matching hat, and showed great interest in both the Garden and the church.

In the latter are buried, among many others of note, five

Archbishops of Canterbury and Elias Ashmole, founder of the Ashmoleum Museum, Oxford. There is also the almost unique feature (in an Anglican church) of a total immersion font. The Tradescant Trust is hoping to raise between £100,000 and £250,000 to restore and endow the church and Memorial Garden.

As always, the Queen Mother created around her the happiest and most relaxed atmosphere. In her presence a model of the ship in which the younger Tradescant sailed to America — and made entirely of the flowers he introduced — was placed upon the Tradescant tomb; and as Her Majesty took her leave she was presented with a miniature trug filled with Tradescant flowers. The B.S.H.P. is now a member of the Tradescant Trust.

## B.S.H.P. excursion

To celebrate its tenth anniversary the British Society for the History of Pharmacy, in conjunction with the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, made an excursion on June 18 into deepest Suffolk, to be exact to the delightfully named village of Walberswick. There, tucked away in a bye-lane is "Westwood", the home of Mea Allan and Grace Woodbridge, the originators and guardians of a garden devoted to the John Tradescants. The Pharmaceutical Society's new home in Lambeth may fairly be said to be situated in "Tradescant-land", and so it was appropriate that the itinerary included the old house which had once been the home of Tradescant's cousins.

The weather was scarcely kind. After a short break at Colchester the coach arrived at "Westwood" just as the rain started. Nothing deterred, every nook and cranny of the garden was explored, it was one of those vastly intriguing places which expand and expand the more you investigate. It is devoted to those plants which the Tradescants, father and son, are known to have introduced, such as the yellow summer jasmine, virginia creeper, lilac and many another. The father brought back from Russia in 1618 with Sir Dudley Digges larch cones and successfully germinated the seeds, the tree proved to be most useful and was recommended by John Evelyn; another Russian introduction was the true Bird Cherry, which proved to be splendid for barrel hoops. So eager was he to be a plant-hunter he even joined in 1620 an expedition against the Barbary corsairs — nor were his efforts in vain for he brought back wild pomegranate trees and the Alger apricot. Son John went to the New World for his introductions.

The skies became progressively greyer and the party was welcomed indoors, to see a slide show of Tradescant plants and a first class talk by Miss Allan. There is no doubt that for her and Miss Woodbridge "our John" and "Johnnie" live as vividly as do the people in the street.

J.B.





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Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S., D.B.A. 36 York Place · Edinburgh · EH1 3HU

## SPRING MEETING

### REMEMBER

- The date : April 7—9 1978
- Venue : University of Technology,  
Loughborough
- Programme: See the next Historian
- Cost : Depending upon inflation, but around  
£25, on current prices.
- Special Session : When members are invited to produce  
10—15 minute papers on a subject of  
their own choosing.

## Sheffield Conference

The successful History of Pharmacy session was sponsored by an extremely generous donation from Boots Co Ltd. It is understood that the Treasurer was able to deal with that aspect of finance with much less difficulty than the rather hectic "sales" of the Society's publications at the end of the session. Nevertheless to the company and purchasers our grateful thanks.

Universitätsbibliothek  
der  
Technischen Universität  
33 Braunschweig  
Pockelsstraße 13

*A top table view of the sales table.*



# Farr's Patent Ampulla

By W.A. JACKSON

On September 27, 1865, Archer Farr took out provisional protection on his "Patent Ampulla". This was described as "A new or improved receptacle for tooth powder, and for conveying the same from such receptacle to the tooth brush, so as to economise the use of the powder, and to prevent the escape of the perfume, with which it may be scented". Two variations of the 'Ampulla' (Latin for bottle or flask) were made. One consisted of the body or receptacle, a perforated nipple which screwed onto the body, and a cap which covered the nipple. In the other type, the nipple was made in one piece with the body, which, in this case, had a base which unscrewed.

Recently, I was fortunate to find one of the latter design which still has its original green paper label on top of the cap. This carries the inscription, "FARR'S PATENT AMPULLA FOR TOOTH POWDER. Sole Agent HINTON, Chemist. 35, Bedford Street, Strand". The cap itself has a cork liner giving an airtight seal. The Ampulla, overall height 7.5 cms., is turned from boxwood, and is of excellent quality. A circular groove has been turned in the bottom of the base, and inside this are the words, "FARR'S/AMPULLA/PATENT". These appear to have been burnt in with a hot iron.

Henry Archibald Hinton was first registered at 35 Bedford Street, Covent Garden, London WC, in 1859. In 1873 he moved to 38 Bedford Street, and in 1887 to 6 Victoria Road, Teddington, where he remained until 1890, when his name was erased from the register at his own request. From this, it would appear that my specimen dates from the period 1865 to 1873.

Tooth powders were very much in vogue at this time, Beasley (The Druggist's General Receipt Book by Henry Beasley, 6th Edition, Churchill, London, 1866) listing no fewer than fifty-two. Surprisingly, oil of mint is used as a flavouring in only four of these, oil of cinnamon and/or oil of cloves being by far the most popular ingredients for this purpose. Many others were used, some of which would seem strange to us nowadays. They included; vanilla, oil of cassia, orris, musk, essence of ambergris, oil of bitter almonds, otto

of rose, oil of bergamot, oil of aniseed, oil of rhodium and essence of violets. Many tooth powders were coloured, usually pink or violet, but occasionally blue or yellow. Most of the abrasives used are familiar, — prepared chalk, heavy carbonate of magnesia, cuttle fish bone, charcoal [preferably prepared from lime, willow, areka (sic) nut or the shells of cocoa (sic) nuts], and pumice, — but a surprising number use coral or shells.

Probably the oddest, and I imagine the most expensive, contained gold and silver leaf which were triturated with sulphate of potash and alum before mixing with white sugar, common salt, pellitory of Spain, prepared hartshorn, sulphate of quinine, and finest powder blue salts (obtained by precipitating a solution of sulphate of cobalt by a solution of silicate of potash). The galvanic action of the metals was thought to stimulate the gums.

However, the powder which I would use if it were available to-day was a mixture of bole, myrrh, bark (presumably cinchona), and orris. It is not that I particularly approve of the formulation, but I could not resist the temptation of using a product which rejoiced in the name of Mrs Elephant's Tooth Powder.

## Acknowledgement

The author wishes to thank Miss D. Jones of the Pharmaceutical Society's library for her assistance.

## Woodspring Museum

Members visiting Weston-Super-Mare should see the Woodspring Museum and Art Gallery in Burlington Street, where, in a courtyard, can be seen the old fittings of a chemist shop originally in West Street. The shop was modernised in 1968 and the owner, Mr John Widgery gave the museum many of the old fittings from the pharmacy including a large glass door inscribed with the initials of Mr Widger's grandfather, G.S. Bell, who bought the business in 1897.



So far there is no evidence of a Thomas but the older Cardin's brother Jean married Colette le Quesne and they had four sons Jean, Pierre, Matthieu and Thomas. Nothing is known about this Thomas except that firstly he married Jane La Hagaize in 1598 who bore him four children, only one of whom another Thomas (born 1601) survived, and secondly Jeanne Fiot in 1606. There were six children of this marriage all born in St. Helier between 1607 and 1717, consequently it seems unlikely, though not impossible, that it was either Thomas père or Thomas fils who was admitted as a burgess of Southampton in July 1614 after having served an apprenticeship with William Nevey of Southampton, merchant adventurer.

This Thomas Fawtres (sic) of Southampton was according to the Scavage Rate roll rated on a fair sized house in the parish of St. Lawrence in 1616, when his banquet money was still owing. The following year he was a juror at the Court Leet. On 6 November 1623 "Nicolas Withers of Heeth in the Countye of Southampton, sayler" was accused of throwing down "Mr Fawtres from the Kay at Watergate". Nicolas denied this and said Fawtres had alighted from a small boat belonging to a "barke" and come up the steps to the quay where he had beat him with his fist.

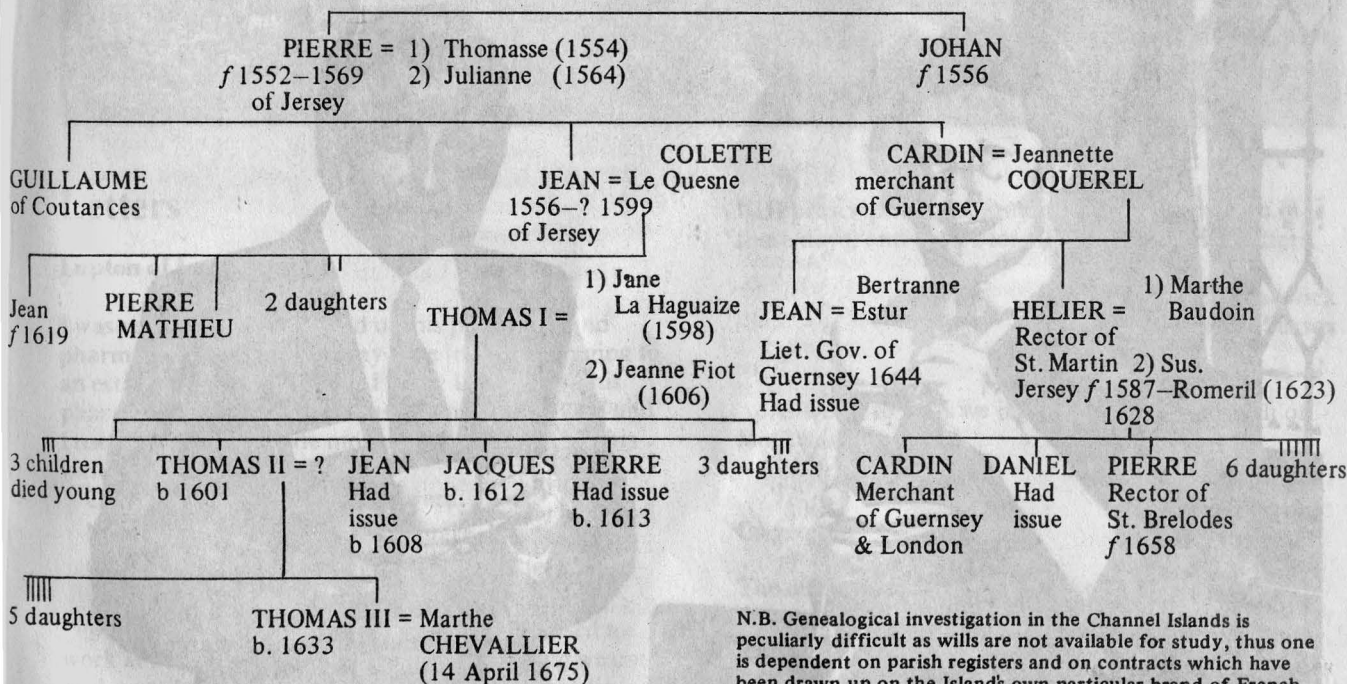
Thomas the younger in his turn married in about

1625 and became the father of five daughters and a son Thomas Fautrart III, born 1633 at St Helier. It would seem almost certain from the very last entry in the diary of the acidulous Monsieur Brevint that this Thomas son of Thomas was an apothecary practising medicine for he wrote in 1664, *On dit que Jean le Hardy a perdu un oeil qui luy tomba (avec douleur violente) par application des médicaments corrosifs par le fils de Th. Fautrart.* Thomas was now 31 and perhaps found it convenient to make a short stay in England. He had certainly returned to Jersey by 1675 when on 14 April he was married by Mons. du Maresqm pasteur, to Marthe Chevallier the grand-daughter of Jean Chevallier Jersey's famous diarist of the Civil War.

No reference has been found to Thomas's death but the daughter of a William Fautrart 'docteur' was buried in St. Helier in 1715, *dans le temple tout contre le paroy au costé de la femme Mons. Charles Dumaresq.* William, possibly the son of Thomas, died in 1720.

Have we now elucidated something of the background of the first owner of the Society's fine pill tile? How curious that after travelling many miles it should have returned to within a stone's throw of where it was made.

## FAUTRART, FAULTRART, FAUTRAS



N.B. Genealogical investigation in the Channel Islands is peculiarly difficult as wills are not available for study, thus one is dependent on parish registers and on contracts which have been drawn up on the Islands own particular brand of French. For this work I am indebted to Miss M. Syvret and Miss J. Arthur of the Société Jersiaise.

# THOMAS HOLLOWAY and his Patent Pills

By Dr. F.C. TRING

*The following is an abstract from Dr Tring's paper presented at the History of Pharmacy Session, British Pharmaceutical Conference, Sheffield on September 13. The other paper, by Mrs J. Burnby, is to be published in a later edition of the "Historian".*

Thomas Holloway was born at Plymouth Dock (later called Devonport) in 1800. He was educated at Cambourne and Penzance until 1816 when following the death of his father, he, along with his mother and brother Henry kept a grocery and baker's shop. This partnership continued until about 1828 when Holloway removed to London, holding various appointments until 1836 when he established himself as a merchant and foreign commercial agent. One of Holloway's earliest and most significant clients was Felix Albinolo, an Italian settled in London. Albinolo was the proprietor of an ointment and a vendor of leeches. The encounter with Albinolo was an important one for Holloway who introduced Albinolo to the authorities of St. Thomas's Hospital as "the inventor of a new ointment" and even succeeded in obtaining testimonials "as to its use and efficacy". The ease with which he obtained patronage for Albinolo's ointment apparently suggested to Holloway that a similar ointment generously advertised might be a profitable speculation.

In 1837 Holloway prepared an innocuous compound which he called "Holloway's Family Ointment". Two years later he was described in the London Directory as "Thomas Holloway, patent medicine vendor, 244, Strand".

Soon after his arrival in London, Holloway married Miss Jane Driver, who afterwards helped him in his business. He began in a small but very industrious way with a daily visit to the docks where he brought his ointment and pills to the notice of captains of vessels and passengers sailing to all parts of the world. For a time Holloway's efforts to obtain publicity were rewarded with little success but he remained a staunch believer in advertising.

The first of Holloway's advertisements appeared in a local newspaper in October 1837. From this humble beginning Holloway's advertisements gradually found their way into columns of newspapers "circulating in the most remote parts of Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Australia and were printed in almost every language". As his business increased so he increased his expenditure on advertising. In 1842 he spent £5,000 on advertising; in 1845 it had risen to £10,000, in 1851 to £20,000 and 1855 £30,000. At the time of his death expenditure on advertising exceeded £40,000.

As Holloway's commercial strength increased he was able to apply rigid conditions to his advertising arrangements. It was an important condition that a copy of each journal or periodical containing his advertisements should be forwarded immediately after its publication to his head office where the advertisement was duly checked and credited on its appearance. If it was not inserted according to the strict instructions Holloway laid down, the advertisement was disallowed; "often to the discomfort of negligent printers". As a result of this inflexible rule Holloway came to possess the most complete collections of English, Colonial and foreign newspapers and periodical literature in the world.

*Break for tea Dr Tring with the president, Mrs J. Burnby*







## Letters

### Lupton of Levenshulme

I was very interested to read of this pharmacy and pharmacist having served my time in and belonging to an established family there. I knew Lupton and his pharmacy; the gentleman was a "terror at times" and I used to think he made most of his money out of his wines and spirits sales.

Other interesting businesses were:

Mottersheads of St. Anne's Square, Manchester  
G.A. Mallinson, Withington, Manchester, (later asst. Secretary PSGB and Secretary RPU etc).

Mr Wright, NPU, (now NPA), like myself used to work at Mallinsons where we made everything we used and even claimed spirit refunds from the Customs & Excise. We also gilded and silvered pills, made blisters etc. It was there the late Mallinson started to price

NHI prescriptions (pharmacists priced their own in those days) and soon became expert on NHI matters.

Thos. B. Chadwick  
Pulborough, Sussex

As we go to press we regret to learn of the death of Mr Chadwick.

### Correction

The author Mr. Jackson points out that subediting changes in the original article might be misleading.

Lupton made quinine tooth powder, homoeopathic tooth powder and violet tooth powder. He did not deal in homoeopathic remedies generally and had no facilities for preparing quinine commercially.

# The Thomas Fautrart Pill Tile

By J. BURNBY

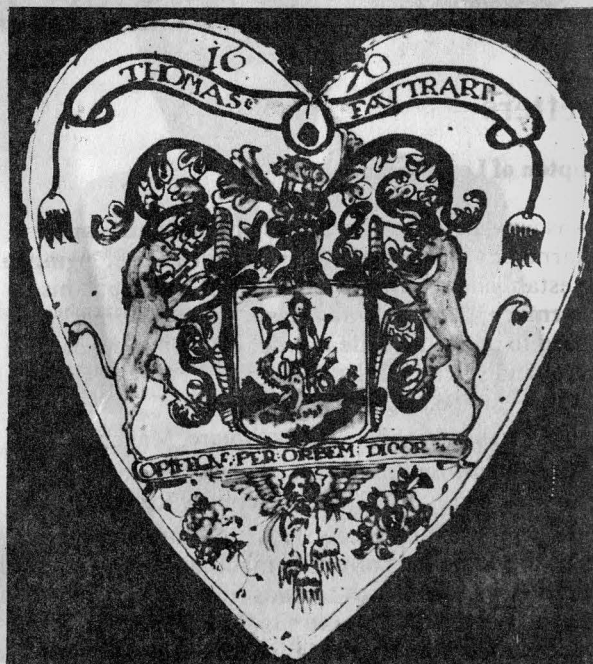
The Thomas Fautrart pill tile is one of the Pharmaceutical Society's most treasured possessions; it is heart shaped, eleven ins. in height and in polychrome Lambeth delftware, it bears the arms of the London Society of Apothecaries and is the earliest known dated (1670) pill-tile, it is also a mystery because nothing is known about Thomas Fautrart the man for whom the tile was presumably first made. The court minute books of the London company do not indicate that he was ever apprenticed in that city or that he ever gained its Freedom. The name points to a French origin and it has been thought that he was a Huguenot refugee who came to the U.K. before the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. Certainly the Huguenot Society records show that there were two Fautra(r)t baptisms at the church in Threadneedle Street, Sara, the daughter of Mathieu and Susanne on 20 August 1601, and her sister Rebecca two years later.

Last year Mr George Garbutt drew my attention to a list of rectors at the parish church of St. Brelades, Jersey. From 1629—1645 the position was held by Maître Pierre Faultrart and also for the two years 1654 to 58. Could this rector be a relation of our apothecary? Research was commenced at the library of La Societe Jersiaise in St. Helier.

The family of Faultrart, Fautras or Fautrart is to be found in both Jersey and Guernsey from the mid 16th century onwards. Almost certainly they originated in France and their family alliances lead one to suppose that they had Calvinistic sympathies. The earliest date to which they have been traced is 1552 and the first Huguenots are thought to have arrived in Jersey in 1648. Pierre Fautrart and his brother Jean or Johan established themselves in Jersey by buying small estates and 'rentes', and in the case of Pierre by marrying an island girl. It is probable that he was a haberdasher.

He had three sons, Guillaume, who was said by the diarist Brevint of Sark to be a 'grand papiste' living in Coutances, Jean described as 'un buveur' and Cardin whom he like no better. Cardin became a merchant and moved on to Guernsey as the trading facilities were better there. He possibly went to Southampton for a while, just about the time of his father's death, as on July 3 1569 a Cardin Fatrat (sic) of Guernsey was

admitted to the Walloon church established in that town. He married Jeannette Cocquerel and had two sons Jean and Helier. The former became lieutenant-governor of Guernsey and the latter returned to Jersey to become rector of St. Martins. Helier married Marthe Baudoin whose father Nicolas had been sent by Calvin in Geneva to be a minister in Guernsey. They had a large family of six daughters and three sons, Daniel, Cardin and Pierre. Cardin junior became a merchant in Guernsey and London. In 1624 he was living "in Paules Court right against St. Michells church in great Wood Street" and was dealing in sugar. Pierre like his father went into the church. He was ordained in 1617 by the Bishop of London and became rector of St. Brelades in 1629 — the clue which started this investigation. Monsieur Brevint several times refers to Daniel Fautrart's gout, once he wrote "*on y appliqua cataplasmes froids ...medécines ou remèdes luy sont envoyez de Londres par Sr. Bertrand apoticaire Guerneziais non marié (age d'environ 50 ans) qui a beaucoup de pratique, estant employé par le Sr. Guerdain (lequel est aussi établi Maistre de la M. par 2 autres Drs. en Médecine).*"





Holloway suffered two unpleasant encounters in the courts. The first was in 1850 when he obtained an injunction against his brother, Henry Holloway who had commenced selling Holloway's Pills and Ointments at 210 Strand. The second was in 1860 when he employed a Dr Sillon to introduce his medicines into France. A suit arose out of this transaction and Holloway did not proceed with his plans for commercial expansion into that country. Apart from these episodes Holloway was almost inconspicuous when compared with Morison.

In 1867 Holloway moved to new premises in Oxford St., employing at that time more than a hundred staff (excluding "various branches of outdoor assistance"). A few years later annual profits from his medicine business reached £50,000 and combined with judicious speculation in stocks, made him very rich. Holloway

had no children of his own but he showed great munificence in the later years of his life. An offer on his part to bestow some of his money on his native town was not well received by the municipal authorities. Shortly afterwards on the advice of Lord Shaftesbury he decided on building a sanatorium as a hospital for the mentally afflicted of the lower middle class. His most generous gift was £800,000 towards the cost of erecting and furnishing "a vast and sumptuous pile of buildings" known as the Royal Holloway College. This College was opened by Queen Victoria on June 30 1886 almost three years after Holloway's death. His gifts earned for Holloway an obituary in the *Times* and he was the first patent medicine vendor to be honoured in that way. *Punch* however, described both Morison and Holloway (and their laxative pills) in a less complimentary way, dismissing them "as the most remarkable **PILLERS** of society".



## Faculty enlarged and constitution changed

Faculty of the History and Philosophy of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London which was founded in 1959 has now been enlarged to include the Philosophy of Medicine and its constitution has been revised. The purposes of the revision are to strengthen the link between the Society and the Faculty, to enable the membership to take a more active part in its organisation and to make the Faculty more effective in its role as a co-ordinating body for the History and Philosophy of Medicine and Pharmacy. A new grade of Fellowship has been instituted.

Copies of the new constitution have been sent to all members who have kept the Society informed of their addresses.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the new constitution may do so from the Honorary Secretary, Apothecaries Hall, Black Friars Lane, London EC4V 6EJ.

The following is the programme for 1978. The lectures begin at 6 p.m. and are held at The Apothecaries Hall.

**February 7 — John Locke lecture** "What can Philosophy do for Medicine?" Professor R.M. Hare, F.B.A. (White's Professor of Moral Philosophy and Fellow of Corpus Christie College, Oxford).

**March 6 — Monckton Copeman lecture** "Westminster Hospital and the Origin of Voluntary Teaching Hospitals", Professor J. Humble, C.V.O., F.R.C.P.Path. (Professor of Haematology,

Westminster Hospital Medical School and author of the history of the hospital).

**April 25 — Osler lecture:** "Medicine and the Navy in the 19th Century" Mrs. Dorothy Crisp, B.Sc., M.P.S., D.H.M.S.A. (Lecturer in Chemistry, Gloucester College).

**May 17 — Gideon De Laune lecture:** "The Apothecaries of Dublin" N.C. Cooper, M.Sc., Ph.D., F.P.S. (N.I.), Chief Pharmacist, Northern Ireland Department of Health and Social Services.

## Antimony in History

An historical review, "Observations upon Antimony" was the presidential address by R.I. McCallum MD DSc to the section of Occupational Medicine, Royal Society of Medicine, at the beginning of the year. Dr McCallum's address has now been printed in the November *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine* (P.756).

(2455-546)

## Computer Index of apothecaries

T D Whittet has been collecting biographical data about London and provincial apothecaries for many years and in 1970 he published "A Project for a Directory of Provincial Apothecaries".<sup>1</sup> In his Presidential address to the British Society for the History of Pharmacy entitled "Britain's Treasure House of Records"<sup>2</sup> he outlined many of the types of records available.

In 1973 he became aware of the Book Subscription Lists Project being undertaken by the School of Education of the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne under the direction of Peter Wallis who agreed to compile lists of apothecaries etc. from this work.

It was customary for most of the books published in the 18th and 19th centuries to contain lists of the name of the subscribers to the works. Since many of these lists include the occupation and town of residence of the subscriber they can provide valuable information. The project involves the use of a computer to produce an alphabetic list of the subscribers.

In 1974 Wallis and F J G Robinson prepared "A Preliminary Guide to Apothecaries in Book Subscription Lists", copies of which were distributed to those attending the Cambridge Conference of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy in that year. It listed the names of over 300 apothecaries from almost 100 towns. This preliminary list has now grown to about 5,000.

In 1975 Robinson and Wallis published "Book Subscription Lists, A Revised Guide"<sup>3</sup> which with two supplements, details over 5,000 lists. It became obvious that the large number of records can only be handled by a computer process. Fortunately this work relates to another project being undertaken by Wallis and his colleagues — the 18th century biobibliographical file in preparation by the Project for Historical Biobibliography at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The Wellcome Trust has given a grant towards this project to facilitate work in medical biobibliography. A note describing this project has been published in *Medical History*.<sup>4</sup>

A start has been made with filing the indenture returns of apprentices of the 18th century extracted by Mrs J Burnby from the documents at the Public Records Office. Each entry may contain apothecaries, pharmacists etc. in the master, apprentice or parent section or in more than one of these.

These returns have already been stored in the computer which can generate print-outs by vocation, date, place or name, using existing filing systems. This basic data-base will be enriched by adding material from a variety of sources including particularly Whittet's manuscript collection built up over many years, the lists of book subscribers being exploited at Newcastle, F H Rawlings' lists of apothecaries of Bristol and its neighbourhood and the late Maurice Newbold's extensive lists of Cambridge medical personnel.

The completed edited file will be used to produce an Index of Apothecaries etc. by computer typesetting processes which will eliminate the normal long drawn out manual setting up and proof reading.

Readers interested in more details are invited to write to either of the undersigned:—

Mr P J Wallis,  
Director,  
Project for Historical Biobibliography, (PHIBB)  
School of Education  
The University  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE1 7RU.

Dr T D Whittet  
"Woburn Lodge"  
8 Lyndhurst Drive  
Harpenden, AL5 5QN.

### References

1. Whittet, T D., *Pharmaceutical Historian*, Vol 1. No.4, March 1970 p.2.
2. Whittet, T D *IBID*, Vol.5, No.1, May 1975 p.5.
3. Robinson, F J G and Wallis, P J. *Book subscription lists. A Revised Guide*, Harold Hill & Son Ltd. for the Book Subscription List Project, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1975.
4. *Medical History*, 1976, 20, 323.

**The president and officers of  
the Society wish all members  
a new year of happiness  
and great prosperity.**

**Again the Editor expresses the  
hope that members will find  
ample opportunities to help  
him fill the future  
Pharmaceutical Historians**